



**Public Safety Committee  
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
March 28, 2016**

**The Public Safety Committee convened in a regular meeting on Monday, March 28, 2016 at 301 W. Second St. in Austin, Texas.**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Zimmerman called the Board Meeting to order at p.m.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Don Zimmerman, Chair; Greg Casar, Vice Chair; Ora Houston; Leslie Pool

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEE:** Mayor Steve Adler on the dais for agenda item 2.

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Council Member Zimmerman asked for an amendment that would strike the words Executive Session from the January minutes. Council Member Pool moved that the minutes are approved with the deletion of the heading "Executive Session." Council Member Houston noted that on page three of the minutes one of the speaker's last name is Gosh. With those two edits, the Committee approved the minutes of the January 25, 2016 meeting on a unanimous vote; with 3/0, with Council Member Casar off the dais.

**2. STAFF BRIEFING ON THE HIGH-LEVEL PERFORMANCE METRICS FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, AUSTIN FIRE DEPARTMENT, AUSTIN POLICE DEPARTMENT AND AUSTIN CODE DEPARTMENT. (NOTES: SPONSOR: COUNCIL MEMBER DON ZIMMERMAN, CO 1: MAYOR STEVE ADLER)**

Presentations of the Public Safety Department metrics were provided for January and February 2016 by Chief of Staff Jasper Brown with Austin – Travis County Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Chief of Staff Tom Dodds with the Austin Fire Department (AFD), Chief of Staff Brian Manley with the Austin Police Department (APD), and Carl Smart with the Austin Code Department. Council Members agreed that the Committee will look at the metrics every six months.

**3. STAFF BRIEFING, INVITED TESTIMONY, AND POLICY DISCUSSION REGARDING THE COYOTE POLICY WITHIN THE CITY OF AUSTIN. (NOTES: SPONSOR: COUNCIL MEMBER DON ZIMMERMAN, CO 1: COUNCIL MEMBER ORA HOUSTON)**

Discussion about coyote management and staff and citizens provided input regarding whether there is a need to change the current resolution.

- Tawny Hammond – Director, Animal Services – reviewed the response guide. Council Member Houston asked for confirmation that the 2014 Resolution is the current one being used today; Director Hammond confirmed.

- Sherry Fleming – Travis County, confirmed that County Commissioners did not make any changes to the current contract.
- Assistant City Manager Bert Lumbreras referred to current policy saying it is humane. The City of Austin is closely monitoring and is working with Texas Wildlife Services and the Travis County.
- Michael J. Bodenchuk, State Director, Texas Wildlife Services is the current agency that handles coyote management and has been doing so since 2005. He provided an overview of his agency's authority and supports the current resolution.
- No motion was taken by Council Members to change the current resolution.

**Speakers**

- David King
- Brenda Collier
- Carolyn Abernethy
- Susan Bellonzi
- Pat Vall-Trelles
- Michael Fossum
- Zoila Vega

**4. 4:30 PM STAFF BRIEFING, INVITED TESTIMONY, AND POLICY DISCUSSION REGARDING BODY WORN CAMERAS. (NOTES: SPONSOR: COUNCIL MEMBER DON ZIMMERMAN, CO 1: COUNCIL MEMBER ORA HOUSTON CO 2: COUNCIL MEMBER GREGORIO CASAR)**

- Council Members and staff discussed processes, including a policy for turning cameras on and off. Staff indicated the policy follows state law and officers will be required to turn on and off the camera. Once the vendor is selected APD can move forward to finalize the policy.
- Additional information about APD body cameras can be found at: <http://www.austintexas.gov/APDbodycam> Council Member Houston and Police Monitor Margo Frasier encouraged staff to go back to the community to provide an update and keep citizens involved on the process since many do not have access to the internet.

**Speakers**

- Matt Simpson, ACLU of Texas
- Kathie Mitchell
- Nelson Linder, Local NAACP

**5. 5:30 PM STAFF BRIEFING, INVITED TESTIMONY, AND POLICY DISCUSSION REGARDING THE 2015 RACIAL PROFILING REPORT AND PATROL STAFFING LEVELS. (NOTES: SPONSOR: COUNCIL MEMBER ORA HOUSTON, CO 1: COUNCIL MEMBER DON ZIMMERMAN)**

APD Chief of Staff Brian Manley presented a PowerPoint: Austin Police Department 2015 Racial Profiling. APD updates this report annually. Council Member Houston asked if the Committee could see the number of times people were stopped, whether an arrest was made or a ticket was issued, and the locations of those, it would give us better data about whether people are being profiled. Chief Manley agreed and said that they will have a report that includes all of the information on all of the stops. Margo Frasier, Police Monitor shared a presentation on racial profiling.

***CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL***

**6. SPEAKERS SIGNED UP PRIOR TO THIS ITEM BEING CALLED WILL EACH BE ALLOWED THREE MINUTES TO ADDRESS THEIR CONCERNS REGARDING PUBLIC SAFETY ITEMS NOT POSTED ON THIS AGENDA.**

- None

***FUTURE ITEMS***

**9. DISCUSSION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.**

**NEXT MEETING**

- Monday, May 23, 2016

**ADJOURN**

Chair Zimmerman adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m. without objection.

*The minutes were approved on this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2016 on a unanimous vote.*